

CHANCELLOR KONRAD ADENAUER

of the
Federal Republic of Germany
'MEETS THE PRESS'

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 AUTH: HR 10-2
 DATE: 6/3/81 REVIEWER:
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NBC Panel Program, "Meet the Press," Washington, D. C., Sunday, April 16, 1961. Guest: His Excellency, Dr. Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. Moderator: Ned Brooks at the table with the Chancellor. Panel (l. to r.): Frank Bourgholtzer, NBC News; Ernest K. Lindley, Newsweek Magazine; James Reston, New York Times and Lawrence E. Spivak regular panel member.

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Senator Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.) inserts this historical interview in the Congressional Record, issue of April 19, 1961. The complete text of the interview with Senator Dodd's introductory remarks, plus the White House joint communique by the President and Chancellor Adenauer are reproduced in the following pages as a contribution to a historical chapter in world statesmanship.

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THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR AND OUR PRESIDENT



Credit: UPI Photo

The German-United States alliance in a show of friendship when Chancellor Adenauer and President Kennedy met for the first time in Washington, April 12, 1961.



We are producing on the following pages the White House communique in order to better understand the interesting and penetrating questions put to Chancellor Adenauer by some of the best newspapermen in the United States during a television interview. These newspapermen are part of a great team of American journalists known the world over as members of the important television panel program, "Meet the Press."

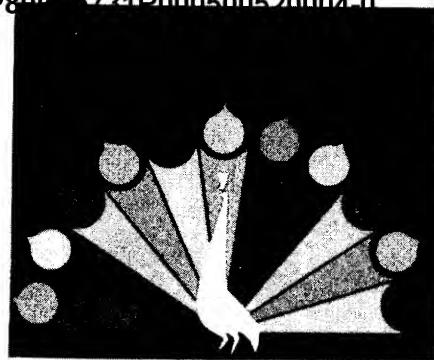
MAIN OFFICE: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
BRANCH OFFICES: NEW YORK, NEW YORK
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRANKFURT am MAIN, GERMANY

JULIUS KLEIN
MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED)

Julius Klein Public Relations
INC.

WESTMINSTER BUILDING
110 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS
TELEPHONE DEARBORN 2-4110



NBC COLOR TELEVISION NEWS

April 20, 1961

FULL TEXT OF ADENAUER INTERVIEW ON 'MEET THE PRESS'
IS ENTERED IN 'CONGRESSIONAL RECORD'

The full text of an interview with West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer on NBC's "Meet the Press" has been entered in the Congressional Record.

Senator Thomas J. Dodd (D.-Conn.) told the Senate that Adenauer's appearance on "Meet the Press" Sunday, April 16, "gave the American people a fine opportunity to observe this great man who is rightly called the architect of modern Germany."

"Chancellor Adenauer reaffirmed the determination of his country to stand with the United States in firmly resisting Communist aggression," Senator Dodd said. "Because of the important views on a number of issues expressed during this program by the Chancellor, I ask unanimous consent that the transcript be printed at this point in the Record."

("Meet the Press" is broadcast on the NBC-TV Network in color 6 p.m. EST; on NBC Radio except WNBC at 6:30 p.m. EST; WNBC time 6:35 p.m. EST.)

WITH PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

April 13, 1961

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR KONRAD ADENAUER
AFTER THE READING OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE
OUTSIDE THE ENTRANCE TO THE WEST LOBBY OF THE WHITE HOUSE
ABOUT 5.00 P.M., EST

THE PRESIDENT: We have this Communique which will come out in a few minutes. Perhaps I could read it quickly and then I might say a word or two.

(After reading the Communique): I want to say, speaking as President of the United States, that it has been a great pleasure to welcome to the shores of this country again the Chancellor of the Federal Republic. I don't think that there is any doubt that history will deal most generously with him in writing the history of the Atlantic Community in the years 1945 to the present. His accomplishments have been extraordinary in binding the nations of Western Europe together, in strengthening the ties which link the United States and the Federal Republic.

Therefore, speaking personally and also as President of this country, it is a great honor to welcome again to our shores a friend, a great European and distinguished leader of his country, the Chancellor of the German Republic, Chancellor Adenauer.

CHANCELLOR ADENAUER (as interpreted from the German): Mr. President, I was deeply moved and touched by the kind words which you said after reading out the Communique. I should like to assure you, Mr. President, that I feel exactly the same way as you do, that it was an extremely great pleasure for me to have come back again to your country in order to have had the opportunity of sensing the atmosphere which I was able to find over here. I especially felt this atmosphere in the discussions which I had with you, Mr. President, and I also felt it particularly this afternoon when I was welcomed in the Senate.

This is the ninth time that I have come here to the United States, and every time I feel deeper and closer linked with your country and with your government. I am very happy indeed, Mr. President, to have had this chance of meeting you -- and you, as the great leader of your country, and therefore the personality that carries such a huge responsibility for the fate of all the free world, and you are dealing with this big task with great energy, with great far-sightedness.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 1961

Office of the White House Press Secretary
and
Press Chief of the Federal Government of Germany

THE WHITE HOUSE

FOLLOWING IS A JOINT COMMUNIQUE
BY THE PRESIDENT AND HIS EXCELLENCY
CHANCELLOR KONRAD ADENAUER of the
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY:

During the past two days the President and the Chancellor have had a most cordial and useful exchange of views on a number of subjects of interest to their two Governments.

Their informal conversations have included among other things, discussions of; the problem of a divided Germany including Berlin; the current nuclear test ban talks; political and military developments pertaining to NATO; aid to developing countries, European economic cooperation; East-West relations; and the situation in some critical areas of world politics.

Also participating in the talks were Secretary of State Dean Rusk and German Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano

The President and the Chancellor reaffirmed the position of their Governments that only through the application of the principle of self-determination can a just and enduring solution be found for the problem of Germany including Berlin. They renewed their pledge to preserve the freedom of the people of West Berlin pending the reunification of Germany in peace and freedom and the restoration of Berlin as the capital of a reunified country.

The President and the Chancellor agreed that intensified political cooperation in NATO is indispensable in order to coordinate the efforts of the Allies for the preservation of peace and security in the world.

The President and the Chancellor reaffirmed their support of NATO as the keystone of the common defense of the North Atlantic area. They underlined the conviction of their Governments as to the necessity for the Alliance to maintain and develop further all military means required to enable them to deter effectively a potential aggressor from threatening the territorial integrity or independence of any ally.

Furthermore, the problems of general and controlled disarmament were discussed. The President and the Chancellor are convinced that reasonable, freely negotiated measures to reverse the growth of uncontrolled national armaments will serve to lessen the danger of war and that concurrently measures should be negotiated to secure a life in freedom to all nations. The goal is a general and total peace.

(more)

The President and the Chancellor agreed on the importance of a concerted aid effort by the industrialized free world nations in an amount commensurate with their resources and on a basis corresponding to the magnitude of the task. They pledged the support of the United States and the Federal Republic to the fulfillment of the objectives adopted by the member nations of the Development Assistance Group at their meeting in London two weeks ago.

The President and the Chancellor welcomed the prospective establishment of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development as constituting a step of vital importance in the development of an Atlantic Community. The new possibilities which it opens for economic cooperation and economic policy coordination and the means of achieving closer interdependence were also discussed.

In this connection, the President and the Chancellor agreed that continuing attention should be paid to the balance of payments problem.

The important role of the European Economic Community as a powerful and cohesive force in the core of the Atlantic Community was stressed. The dynamic political and institutional potential of the EEC was agreed to be an important element of present strength for the Atlantic Community.

The fruitful exchange of views which the President and the Chancellor have had, as well as the frank and cordial atmosphere in which the talks were conducted have contributed significantly to deepening the ties of friendship and understanding between the two countries and to the strengthening of the free world community.



FROM THE FLOOR OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE
(Congressional Record, p.5619, April 14, 1961)

LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF CHANCELLOR ADENAUER

Mr. JAVITS. Mr. President, I wish to call the attention of the Senate to a notable luncheon which was held today, presided over by the distinguished Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD], and at which the cohosts were the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. BRIDGES], the distinguished Senator from Minnesota [Mr. HUMPHREY], the distinguished Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HRUSKA], and I. The luncheon was given in honor of Chancellor Adenauer and Foreign Minister von Brentano, of the German Federal Republic, and was held in the committee room of the Committee on Appropriations in the New Senate Office Building.

A large audience was present, including Mrs. Libeth Werhahn, the daughter of Chancellor Adenauer, and many of our Senate colleagues.

The luncheon was held in the presence of the Vice President of the United States, the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson; the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, the Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; the president of the American Red Cross, General Gruenther; the Ambassador from the German Federal Republic to the United

States, Dr. Wilhelm Grewe; and the U.S. Ambassador to the German Federal Republic, Mr. J. Walter Dowling.

The luncheon was marked by magnificent addresses delivered by Chancellor Adenauer, Foreign Minister von Brentano, and by many of our colleagues, and was most graciously presided over by the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD].

I think the luncheon will go far, in view of the character of the audience and the nature of the addresses, to signalize the close relationship between the German Federal Republic and the United States in the interests of freedom and in the defense of freedom.

Coming at a time when the world has a new degree of curiosity about the new Germany and its role in the pursuit of freedom and in the integration of Europe for economic, political, and governmental purposes, it was a most significant occasion, for which we are all most grateful.

In due course, either I or one of my cohosts will place in the RECORD the text of the remarks which were made at the luncheon. For the present, I only express my gratification, without commenting upon the fine influence I believe the gathering will have on our relations abroad, not only with the people of Germany, but also with the people of Europe and the rest of the free world.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

APRIL 11, 1961

NO. 207

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK UPON THE ARRIVAL
IN WASHINGTON OF HIS EXCELLENCY DR. KONRAD ADENAUER,
CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Mr. Chancellor:

Let me extend to you a warm welcome to Washington. It is a great pleasure for me both personally and officially, and a high privilege as well, to greet you on behalf of President Kennedy and the people of the United States.

We are happy to have you here with us not only because you are so well known as a close and understanding friend of our country, but also because you embody so clearly the dynamic and democratic Germany of today. It is most opportune that you could arrange to consult with us at precisely this time when a new American Administration is shaping the major policy lines which we will expect to follow during the years ahead. In close cooperation with our Allies and friends, we shall move together on the path toward freedom and peace for all the world. We will expect to benefit greatly from the wise and statesmanlike counsel that you will bring to this endeavor.

Permit me also to extend my welcome to your daughter, Mrs. Werhahn*, and the distinguished members of your party, including particularly Foreign Minister von Brentano. I hope that, even though your stay with us will be a short one, the pressure of business will permit you some measure of relaxation and that your visit will prove most pleasant and enjoyable for yourself and your party.

*Mrs. Libeth Werhahn

State--RD, Wash., D.C.



West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer (l.)
and Secretary of State Dean Rusk. (UPI Photo)



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 87th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 107

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1961

No. 66

Senate

COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT: "MEET THE PRESS"

CHANCELLOR KONRAD ADENAUER MEETS THE PRESS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on Sunday evening Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany was the guest on the NBC panel program "Meet the Press."

His appearance gave the American people a fine opportunity to observe this great man who is rightly called the architect of modern Germany.

Chancellor Adenauer reaffirmed the determination of his country to stand with the United States in firmly resisting Communist aggression.

Because of the important views on a number of issues expressed during this program by the Chancellor, I ask unanimous consent that the transcript be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the transcript was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MEET THE PRESS

(Produced by Lawrence E. Spivak)

Sunday, April 16, 1961.

Moderator: Ned Brooks:

Guest: His Excellency, Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Panel: Frank Bourgholtzer, NBC News; Ernest K. Lindley, Newsweek Magazine; James Reston, New York Times; Lawrence E. Spivak, regular panel member.

Mr. Brooks. This is Ned Brooks, inviting you to "Meet the Press."

Our guest today is the Chancellor of West Germany, Dr. Konrad Adenauer. He has just concluded a series of conferences with President Kennedy reaffirming the solidarity of relations between our two countries.

Asking the questions today on "Meet the Press" are Frank Bourgholtzer, of NBC News; Ernest K. Lindley, of Newsweek magazine; James Reston, of the New York Times; and Lawrence E. Spivak, our regular member of the "Meet the Press" panel.

Mr. Brooks. The conferences just concluded between Chancellor Adenauer and President Kennedy have produced agreement to stand firm on West Berlin and to strengthen the NATO organization.

Dr. Adenauer, now 85 years old, has served as Chancellor since 1949. He now is a candidate for reelection. He is recognized throughout the world as an unyielding enemy of communism. He has been the chief architect of Germany's postwar recovery and renewed participation in world affairs.

Dr. Adenauer began his career as Mayor of Cologne and he was one of the founders of the Christian Democratic Party.



Credit: Reni Photos

His Excellency, Konrad Adenauer, (l.) Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany with Lawrence E. Spivak, regular panel member of NBC's "Meet the Press" program on the occasion of the Chancellor's visit to Washington for his first meeting with President John F. Kennedy.

Assisting in our program today are two translators. With their help we will give you a simultaneous translation. That accounts for the earphones.

Now ready to start the questions, Mr. Spivak.

Mr. SPIVAK. Mr. Chancellor, the communiqué which you and President Kennedy issued is written in such very diplomatic language that it is a bit difficult to know whether anything new and important came out of your meeting.

Would you tell us what was new and important that came out of this meeting with President Kennedy?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I would certainly like to do so but I think you are not right when you say the communiqué is in very diplomatic terms. I think that the communiqué is a very precise one and very exact. I would also like to point out that we discussed the leadership in NATO and

that myself particularly on behalf of all very much urged that the United States, as by far the biggest NATO power, should take over the lead in NATO more strongly than they did over the past few years.

Mr. SPIVAK. When you say, "Take the lead more strongly," on what to do specifically, what would you have us do that we haven't been doing? We have assumed that we have taken the lead and that we have taken a strong lead. What would you have us do that would indicate we were taking a strong lead?

Chancellor ADENAUER. President Kennedy was talking of cultivating more strongly the consultation than up to now. If this is being done then it will be clearly recognizable what the views of the United States are in the questions to be decided upon and that only means leadership because if the United States in the very beginning in important matters discusses with the others and gives its views very clearly then I think it is a matter of course that the other partners will think really thoroughly about what the opinion and position will be on those American views and it will only be when they have really strong reasons that they will be in opposition to the views of the United States.

Mr. SPIVAK. Well, now you say that you think the United States ought to take a stronger leadership. At the same time there have been suggestions that we give up some of our leadership, particular where nuclear weapons are concerned. Will you give us your opinion of Mr. Macmillan's recent suggestion of having the United States, Britain, and France act as trustees of the nuclear deterrent in Europe?

Chancellor ADENAUER. This proposal is so little precise that it is not yet possible to take a position on it.

Mr. SPIVAK. Would Germany like a voice in the use of nuclear weapons on the Continent?

Chancellor ADENAUER. You are getting very indiscreet with your questions, but I am trying not to evade them, not to duck them. I think that a three-power directorium would be impossible within NATO, even in the field of nuclear weapons but now many people are studying whether it is impossible with some votes to come to some classification of the votes but all this is not yet concluded and I think that all this will have to be discussed very thoroughly within NATO and examined.

Mr. RESTON. Mr. Chancellor, could you tell us what differences of policy or approach that you have found here as compared with the last time you were here under the Eisenhower administration?

Chancellor ADENAUER. May I ask you to tell me exactly what you mean by it, do you mean the behavior?

(more)

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Mr. RESTON. No; I was thinking primarily in terms of policy. For example, last year as I understand it the United States proposed the Herter plan for the dealing with strategic atomic weapons. Now I understand there is a difference in the point of view of the Kennedy administration. Would you give us your views about that?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Now this is a political, but in my view, in the first line a purely military matter and I think the military experts of course will have to be heard on this matter. I don't know whether this has been done up to now, really.

Mr. RESTON. There is as I understand it a point in your communique with President Kennedy which foresees raising the level of conventional weapons in Europe. Now does this mean that you would allow atomic, tactical weapons to remain in the planning stage where they are now or is that also to be changed?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I have the communique here and if you will permit me I would like to have a look at it to see exactly what the wording is. This I don't think it meant. It is true that we agree to fulfill the conventional objectives, or that we consider them as very important, but this does not mean that the planning in the nuclear field is in any way modified. Our communique says very clearly that we were jointly of the opinion that it is indispensable for the alliances to maintain and develop further all military means which means both the conventional and the nuclear things.

Mr. LINDLEY. Mr. Chancellor, the Eichmann trial is on in Israel. Are you pleased or displeased to have the world and the German people reminded in that way and at this time of those dark pages in history?

Chancellor ADENAUER. It is not beautiful, or nice, but it has to be done and therefore I think we should view it calmly and spread out all these horrors before the world opinion and also the German public.

Mr. LINDLEY. One hears it said sometimes that the German young people today are not being taught in the German schools very much about the rise and fall of Hitler and the crimes committed under the Hitler regime. Do you think that is the case?

Chancellor ADENAUER. That certainly was true for some time or has been true for some time, but I think that has been changed in the meantime. You must not forget that children who go to school now have been born only after the Hitler regime was over and after the war was over.

Mr. LINDLEY. Well, do you think it is important to have them instructed in the rise and fall of Hitler and the crimes of that period?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I am of the opinion that nothing should be kept from them and nothing should be minimized but that these really terrible things should be dealt with as a historian—really made clear as a historic event, as with all other history and one should not be silent about the fault—whose fault it is.

Mr. BOURGHOLTZER. Mr. Chancellor, on the question of the Eichmann trial, is there any obligation on the part of the German Government toward Eichmann as a German citizen?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Eichmann is no German national, German citizen, and we have no obligation whatsoever toward him.

Mr. BOURGHOLTZER. Chancellor, on the question of balance of payments which has been discussed frequently between the United States and West Germany, the new administration here seems to feel that it is wrong for a nation such as West Germany to

have, year after year, a surplus in the balance of payments.

Do you agree with this and do you have any plans to shape German foreign aid programs in such a way as to eliminate balance of payments surpluses?

Chancellor ADENAUER. We don't think it is agreeable always to have a surplus. That awakens in our own people and in other people unpleasant thoughts and we are fully prepared to use what we have in surplus to participate in development aid but I should like to emphasize one point: In the question of economic aid, in my opinion it is important that some coordination be brought into this complex matter. Otherwise if we continue as we have up to now we will not have the success which we all wish for.

Mr. BOURGHOLTZER. Mr. Chancellor, we understand from the newspapers that you have sent a message to Soviet Premier Khrushchev while you have been in Washington. Is this a fact and can you tell us whether there might be some conference or meeting between West German officials and Soviet officials in the near future?

Chancellor ADENAUER. The last point is completely new to me. This is not intended. It is true that a letter of Mr. Khrushchev's which he sent me a few weeks ago, was responded to during these few days, but as you know I can't give you any details because we need mutual agreement to publish the letter.

Mr. SPIVAK. Mr. Chancellor, you and President Kennedy ended your meeting with a joint pledge to strengthen the military defenses of the West. Can you in fact do that without fuller cooperation from General de Gaulle?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Of course we can with de Gaulle's participation, but I hope that the visit President Kennedy will make to Paris will be a blow to iron out the difficulties which exist between France and the United States—France and NATO.

Mr. SPIVAK. Have you personally—I know you have had many talks with de Gaulle. Have you gotten from him his minimal demands for full participation in NATO?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I don't know, but I am of the opinion that its always best to have a very frank discussion about these questions.

Mr. SPIVAK. You say it is well to have frank discussions about them? Have you had frank discussions with de Gaulle about them?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I haven't seen de Gaulle for several months, but I will meet him again in Bonn in May and I am certain that after all these questions of NATO and of a reactivation of NATO, which it needs, will be on the agenda. I will also talk to de Gaulle about these matters when I meet him next.

Mr. SPIVAK. Mr. Chancellor, one other question. Would you like to see the European Free Trade Association merged with the Common Market? Have England join it?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I think that the way would be the following, that individual countries now being aftermembers and the artifices are not as strong as the ties of the Six, will join us and then gradually draw a close association or a full merger will take place and I would welcome that very much.

Mr. RESTON. Mr. Chancellor, may I ask you a philosophic question: Isn't there in the Youth of Germany, the young people who have grown up since the war, isn't there a new European spirit which is different from the spirit when you were a young man in Germany?

Chancellor ADENAUER. A completely different spirit. When I was a young man, some individuals had ideas about Europe, made possible, by the way, because when I was 25 years old I already had this idea that the European countries should go together more closely. Today in Germany we find that the European idea is really the one the youth is most attracted to.

Mr. RESTON. There are a lot of politicians in this city at the present time who would like to be engaged in a national election for the Chancellorship when they are 85 years old. Could you give us the secret of doing that? We would be very interested in that.

Chancellor ADENAUER. In my opinion, nothing keeps us as healthy and as strong than to work often and much and regularly.

Mr. LINDLEY. Mr. Chancellor, on the basis of that diagnosis would you be willing to predict that Khrushchev will live to be 85?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Now this is a very tricky question. I wish that he will become—get old. You know what you have but you never know what the next will be.

Mr. LINDLEY. Mr. Chancellor, I believe that in his letter to you a few weeks ago Mr. Khrushchev indicated that he still regards a change in the status of Berlin as an urgent matter. How long do you think it is likely to be before he provokes another crisis over Berlin?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Well it all depends on the general political development. If you look back you will see that Berlin has always been taken up again when somewhere else in the political situation something existed which the Soviet Union didn't like so they took up the Berlin question to detract from the other problem.

Mr. LINDLEY. You don't think the timing might have some relationship with the next Congress of the Communist Party that is to be held—of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to be held in, I believe, October?

Chancellor ADENAUER. It may be that there is some relationship with it.

Mr. LINDLEY. Would you like to see Mr. Khrushchev and President Kennedy meet at the summit, even informally, between now and the autumn?

Chancellor ADENAUER. I don't know whether you have already the information about the talk between Khrushchev and Mr. Lippmann. In that talk he said that he had quite understood President Kennedy to need some time in order to get familiar with the problems, and I think that is a very reasonable stand and really the new President is right in the midst of all these new problems and I think one should leave him and his people enough time to have a clear view of the whole situation. In this matter really 1 or 2 or 3 months are of no importance. But this will be up to President Kennedy when he thinks the time has come for him to talk to Khrushchev.

Mr. BOURGHOLTZER. Chancellor Adenauer, the work on rockets which is at the basis of both the Soviet Union's and this country's space explorations was originally done as far as we know mostly by German scientists. I wonder if you could tell us if there are scientists in West Germany now, if there are developments there that might help the United States catch up with the Soviet Union if something were done that is not being done.

Chancellor ADENAUER. You know that after the breakdown of Germany, the German scientists who were working on this matter, especially for the greater part, had been transferred to Russia and given to Russia

(more)

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even by the United States so that unfortunately German knowledge was also the basis of the Soviet development in this field. We are not supposed to—not allowed to work in this field except in the field of pure research. But as I have heard also in my talk with President Kennedy that you are very interested also to have Germans participate in this matter. I will certainly take it up after my return.

Mr. RESTON. Mr. Chancellor, I don't put this question to you in a hostile spirit, but there are two things in this country that still trouble some people. One, whether the aggressive spirit of Germany of the past is now dead, and secondly whether in the field of commerce there is any desire for a kind of commercial Rapallo with the Soviet Union?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Let me take the second question first. You are talking about commercial Rapallo I can only say a small part of the German economy might have some interest in the Soviet—with the Soviet Union—but this certainly cannot be termed as Rapallo.

And I haven't felt anything of the aggressive spirit. We have a very strong—we have had a very strong cognition through this war because when your country is destroyed the way our country was destroyed then you know really what war means and you know that aggression does not bear fruit.

Mr. SPIVAK. Mr. Chancellor, would there be any changes in foreign policy regardless of whether you or Mayor Willy Brandt were elected Chancellor?

Chancellor ADENAUER. Do you want to put this question to me in September, please, after the elections? In my opinion now, one shouldn't try to pass any judgments which actually are of no meaning.

Mr. BROOKS. Well, gentlemen, I think we have covered a great deal of territory today, but I am sorry that I must now interrupt. I see that our time is up.

Thank you very much, Dr. Adenauer, for being with us. Our thanks also to our two able translators.



Credit: Reni Photos

Guest on NBC's panel program, "Meet the Press," is His Excellency, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, (r.) during his Washington visit for his first meeting with President Kennedy. With the Chancellor are Ned Brooks, panel moderator (l.) and Lawrence E. Spivak (center), regular member of the panel program.

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April 13

—CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, p. 5509—

1961

VISIT TO THE SENATE BY CHANCELLOR KONRAD ADENAUER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, shortly the Senate will be honored by a visit from the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving this distinguished visitor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Massachusetts in the chair) Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered. The Chair appoints, as a committee to escort the Chancellor into the Chamber, the Senator from Montana [Mr. MANSFIELD], the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DIRKSEN], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SPARKMAN], and the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. WILEY].

Whereupon, at 2 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m. the Senate took a recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate being in recess, his Excellency, Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor

of the Federal Republic of Germany, escorted by the committee appointed by the Vice President, entered the Chamber, and took the seat assigned to him immediately in front of the Vice President.

The members of the party accompanying the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, consisting of His Excellency, Dr. Heinrich von Brentano, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany; His Excellency, Wilhelm G. Grewe, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany; and the interpreter, Mr. Krusterer, were escorted to the Chamber, and took the places assigned to them.

The VICE PRESIDENT Members of the Senate, it is a very high honor and a very great privilege to present the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer. [Applause, Senators rising.]

Thereupon, from the rostrum, the Chancellor delivered a brief address in German, which was translated, as follows:

Mr. Vice President and Members of the Senate, it is a particularly great

pleasure and honor for me to be in this place for the second time and to address a few words to you. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the most friendly and warm reception you have given me here. I know that it was meant primarily for the people I have the honor to represent. Therefore, I thank you with all the warmth of my heart. I may assure you, Members of the Senate, that in these particularly difficult times the German people will always stand by your side, ready to help wherever the Germans can help. Thank you again. [Applause, Senators rising.]

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chancellor has informed the majority and minority leaders that he would be pleased to visit with the Members of the Senate in the well of the Chamber.

The Chancellor, with his party, was thereupon escorted to the well of the Senate, where he was greeted by the Members of the Senate, after which he and his party retired from the Chamber.

At 2 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m., the Senate reassembled, when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SMITH of Massachusetts in the chair).

SENATORS HONOR GERMAN CHANCELLOR

A demonstration of goodwill, with expressions of confidence and admiration were in evidence in great measure at a luncheon hosted by a group of Senators in Washington on April 14, honoring Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano.

A verbatim report of the full proceedings, including all the speeches, will be published at a later date. For the present, there follows a resume of this unique and inspiring reception and luncheon in which not only our Senators and Congressmen participated, but also the top representatives of all branches of the United States government, and leaders of the United States business community as well.

United States Senators Play Host to Two Distinguished German Guests -- Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano April 14, 1961

That the pendulum of public opinion has swung completely since World War II was nowhere more evident than it was in our nation's capital last week during the visit of Dr. Konrad Adenauer, venerable 85-year-old Chancellor of the Federal German Republic.

He was literally lionized by usually blasé members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the executive and judicial branches of our Government, and the sophisticated Washington diplomatic corps.

In a rare move of amity, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson escorted "Der Alte" to the floor of the United States Senate where the Chancellor was personally welcomed by more than 150 top-flight members of the Congress, the executive departments, and civic and business leaders.

But perhaps most indicative was the luncheon given in the Chancellor's honor, and in honor of his Foreign Minister Dr. Heinrich von Brentano in the Senate Appropriations room.

Particularly significant at this time when much of the world's spotlight is focused on the Eichmann trial is that one of the Senatorial hosts was Senator Jacob Javits of New York. The invocation was given by Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld of the Washington Hebrew Congregation.

Other hosts were Senators Thomas J. Dodd, of Connecticut; Styles Bridges, New Hampshire; Hubert H. Humphrey, Minnesota; and Roman L. Hruska, Nebraska.

Protocol was thrown aside as the unofficial quorum of Senators and Congressmen paid their respects to a statesman who devoted much of his life to fighting the spectre of Nazism — for which he was imprisoned in a Gestapo dungeon — and now in the twilight of his years is embarked on another campaign to curb the encroachments of still another horror — Communism.

More than 100 members of the Senate and House of Representatives were there. Not only did the five members of the Senate act as hosts at the luncheon held in the large Senate Appropriations Committee Room, but they invited 170 guests including top ranking members of Government, the diplomatic corps, American civic, business and religious leaders.

It was a touching tribute to the 85-year-old German statesman, who was described by Senator Styles Bridges as "a symbol of manhood who, defying time, continues to be one of the great men of our era".
(more)

With tears in his eyes the German Chancellor, responded with an invitation to all those present to visit him in Germany so that he could reciprocate.

While all this was going on, Senators Margaret Chase Smith, Maurine Neuberger, and the Chancellor's daughter, Mrs. Libeth Werhahn, were busy comparing not only international Spring fashion notes, but discussing the serious problems of the world facing President Kennedy and Chancellor Adenauer.

Chancellor Adenauer told the gathering that he was "extremely and most deeply touched by what I have seen, heard and experienced ...since my arrival in Washington.....

"The United States of America, as a result of the first World War, entered the scene of world politics and became one of the most powerful nations, and in this capacity, the United States entered also into the second World War and then after the end of the Second World War, the United States of America stood that great historical test, namely, to fulfill the task of the victor after victory. And this task of the victor after victory is not to destroy the vanquished but to help the vanquished recover and to help him do peaceful work together with the other members of the community of nations.

"I feel that it is one of the noblest deeds of the American people for all times to come that they dedicated their strength and their power in order to help rebuild a destroyed world, and this, ladies and gentlemen, is the true hallmark of greatness. This is the test of true humaneness and of true vision. I think the American nation has stood this test and this is a record which will greatly contribute to the honor of the people of the United States of America, and of this generation....

"The ordeal of the present generation isn't over yet. We are all aware of this and we are also all aware that we can stand this ordeal only under the strong and determined leadership of the United States of America, and I want also to assure you distinguished leaders of this nation that Germany, in this ordeal, will stand by you on your side, steadfastly and faithfully."

In introducing the Chancellor, Senator Bridges referred to him as ".....one of the great men of the world, one of the great statesmen of the 19th and 20th Century period which we have been passing through and who is a deep friend of the United States and a man who has had the courage to meet all the problems which are so complex in this present day."

Senator Javits said that the Chancellor came "with tremendous and flaming courage to show the face of the new Germany at a time when the world will be holding in the balance the contrast between the new Germany and the old Germany in view of the celebrated trial which is now going on. And it is for this flaming courage, Mr. Chancellor, we pay you such tribute.

"We in public life and in political life know how hard it is to face the tough decisions and to face the people of the world when the decisions are difficult

"You have faced it before in the reunification of Germany and the freedom of the City of Berlin. You have maintained the finest traditions of the whole world. You are determined that they should be - but you are also determined that they shall be if humanly possible, in peace. And, so for my co-hosts in the Senate and all of us here, Mr. Chancellor, we toast the prosperity, the health, the success of freedom as it is premised upon the very best in relations between the German Federal Republic and the United States."

The luncheon was concluded with a benediction by the Rev. Martin J. Casey of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Georgetown, where President Kennedy frequently worships.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, Thurs., Apr. 20, 1961

WILLIAM S. WHITE

Adenauer Symbol Of Greatness

WASHINGTON—The extraordinary importance of being Konrad Adenauer—and the extraordinary power of personal character and personal honor—was curiously illustrated in the old West German chancellor's visit to the United States.

Seventeen years ago this very spring American and British troops were marshaling all over the island of England for the greatest invasion in history against the most bloody-minded enemies in the long story of warfare, the Nazi Germans dug in on the soil of France.

This spring, the leader of the free Germany that emerged from the defeat of the Nazis was here in the United States as an honored and trusted—indeed an almost revered—guest.

It is true, of course, that American self-interest and high politics as well as sentiment have given the leader of a once enemy land this high, peculiar status among us. For he leads the free world's outpost in Europe, the West German Republic; he is an indispensable, watching ally against the Russian hordes just to the east.

THIS, HOWEVER, is by no means all of it. For more important even than his position in the allied power structure is his nature as a human being. A man who always fought Adolf Hitler and what he stood for, Adenauer has personally since then reclaimed the decency and integrity of the German people.

An unshakeable friend of the West, he is also an unshakeable enemy in his own homeland of that odd infection of savagery which so often in the past cursed the Germans in Germany. He is more than a great political leader; he is an example, at its very best, of that thing called European civilization.

A LITTLE WHILE AGO, his principal political rival, Mayor Willy Brandt of West Germany, was also here. He, too, was welcomed everywhere. But to this observer there was a great difference nevertheless in Washington's response to the middle-aged and clever Brandt and to the massive and laconic 85-year-old Adenauer.

Both evoked respect here. But Adenauer—perhaps because of the somber dignity of his years and achievements and perhaps because of a personality having the weathered strength of a great old tree—drew a special regard. It could be seen more easily than it can be described.

He seems to represent some quality of timelessness; of a traditional, patriarchal leadership; some strange and rare victory of age over youth rather than of youth over age, as it usually goes.

NOWHERE IN ALL the chancellor's official functions here was this more plainly true than in his brief appearance before the Senate. This, too, is a traditional, a timeless, a patriarchal



ADENAUER

Saturday, April 15, 1961

THE WASHINGTON POST

Strong U. S. Leadership Needed, Adenauer Says

By Elizabeth Wharton
United Press International

West German Chancellor Allen W. Dulles, Under Secretary of State George Ball, said only strong and determined Ambassador W. Averell Harriman, the armed services Secretaries and about 150 other officials, members of Congress and business leaders.

Adenauer pledged that Germany would stand steadfastly and faithfully with the United States against the threat of communism.

The 85-year-old Chancellor said he was impressed with 43-year-old President Kennedy during their talks this week. He said they advanced "the spirit of brotherhood and the unity of our ideals."

Adenauer and West German Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano spoke at a lunch given in their honor at the Capitol by Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.).

The affair was attended by Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, Central Intelligence Agency Director

Dodd, a prosecutor at the Nuernberg war crimes trials, hailed Adenauer's role in rebuilding Germany after World War II. Senate GOP policy chairman Styles Bridges (N.H.) voiced similar praise.

Adenauer said America's "true hallmark of greatness" was its effort to help the vanquished nations get back on their feet after the war.

The Chancellor did not elaborate on his statement that "the time of ordeal of the present generation is not yet over."

But presumably he referred to the Russian threat to West Germany and Berlin as well as other Soviet pressures.

kind of body. And here "Der Alte" (the old one) was most perfectly at home.

His little talk was received by the Senate with a warmth rarely given to that of any other man. Some who most applauded him had lost sons to German fire in the war; some had themselves gone through German fire.

ALL THE SAME, if a strictly confidential poll had been taken—as, of course, it was not—this correspondent would have had no doubt of the result. Der Alte would carry any popularity contest in the Senate above any other allied statesman, not even excluding British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan.

Macmillan would run ahead in such a private poll among the Southerners and perhaps among the old-Yankee types of Easterners. But he would finish second among the membership as a whole.

Beyond doubt there is an irony here—in a country doubted by British men and resting upon British law and British-made institutions of freedom and speaking the great tongue of the British race. Anyhow, there it is.

Perhaps it is because Der Alte has done so much against such great odds. And perhaps it is also because he has conquered age in the eyes of a forum where age is a far more common thing than youth.



MACMILLAN

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